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Portland Man Sentenced for Lying to Federal Agents

Portland, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby announced today that a federal judge sitting in Portland sentenced **Christopher A. Conley**, 19, of Portland, to 10 months in prison to be followed by 2 years supervised release for making false statements to a Special Agent of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). **Conley** was also ordered to pay a \$1,200 fine. **Conley** had pleaded guilty on June 8, 2006 to making false statements.

According to court records, in 2006 the ATF was investigating several individuals who allegedly operated an organization that illegally possessed firearms and sold cocaine base in the Portland area. Agents learned from multiple witnesses that **Conley** was a close associate of the individuals under investigation. During an interview prior to his scheduled grand jury testimony in December 2006, however, **Conley** falsely claimed that he did not know these individuals and denied having the street name "White Boy."

This case is part of Maine's Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative, which is designed to reduce gun violence. United States Attorney Silsby said that the investigation leading to the conviction was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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